

Funerals

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former member of Salem Lodge.

Mr. Hawkins is survived by his wife, Mrs. Marlene Hawkins, of the home; two sisters, Mrs. Elizabeth Hairston of Rural Halla and Mrs. Barbara Caravana of Pfafftown; one brother, Mr. Joseph L. Hawkins; five nieces, 12 nephews and other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 1 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Friendship Baptist Church. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery. Gilmore Funeral Directors was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Henry S. Lewis

Mr. Henry S. Lewis, Sr., of 830 N.W. 11th St., died on Thursday, Oct. 25, at Forsyth Memorial Hospital. He was a native of York, S.C., and a member of the Union Baptist Church, where he served on the Senior Deacon Board, was a member of the Sunday School, and was in the Benevolent Club of the church.

Mr. Lewis was a retired employee of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Company. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Marie Lewis, of the home; two sons, Henry S. Lewis, Jr., of this city, and Carver D. Lewis of Martinsville, Va.; three brothers, Simpson Lewis of Columbia, S.C., Willie Lewis of High Point, and Mat-

thew Lewis of Albany, N.Y.; six grandchildren; two daughters-in-law, Savannah W. Lewis, of this city, and Connie R. Lewis of Martinsville, Va; and many of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 27, at the Union Baptist Church. Burial was in the Evergreen Cemetery. Gilmore Funeral Directors was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Helen H. Craven

Mrs. Helen H. Craven, of 205 Pine St., Lexington, died on Thursday, Oct. 25, at the Lexington Memorial Hospital. She was a native of Davidson County, a member of the First Baptist Church, a member of the American Legion Post 225 Ladies Auxiliary and a member of the Senior Citizens Club.

Mrs. Craven is survived by three sons, William Craven, Jr., Hot Springs, Va., Walter L. Craven and James S. Craven, both of Lexington; 19 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Maude Eccles of High Point; and many of other relatives and friends.

Funeral services were held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 28, at the First Baptist Church, Lexington. Burial was in the Forest Hill Memorial Park. Gilmore Funeral Directors was in charge of the funeral arrangements.

Pauline Lynch

Mrs. Pauline Lynch, of 1109 W. 11th St., died Saturday evening, Oct. 28, at her home after an extended illness. She was a native of Spartanburg, S.C.



Rev. William Koger

Rev. Koger is appointed

Minister William E. Koger was appointed assistant pastor of Ishi Pentecostal Temple, where the pastor is Mrs. Mamie Rennick.

Rev. Koger attended the local public schools and is a 1956 graduate of Atkins High School.

He is married to Patricia Koger and they have two children.

He is employed by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co.

Mrs. Lynch is survived by one daughter, Mrs. Lucille Joyner, of this city; four grandchildren and several other relatives and close friends.

Gilmore Funeral Directors will be in charge of the funeral arrangements.

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Communion Singers

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only for the sick, but when they sing here at New Bethel everyone is uplifted. Their singing has also meant a great deal to me personally. I'm very proud of them" Drayton says.

The Communion Singers are Gary Allen, Harold Easter, Charles Robinson, Daniel Piggot, William Stowe, Edward Cox, Henry Shipp, Kenneth Rocker, John Posey, John Neal, Sam Kennedy and

Jhuria Ingram, Louise Bitting and Peggy Moore directors.

Although this unique group of singers is praised by everyone who comes into contact with them, they are quick to make it known that they do not seek glory for their singing. Their glory is in serving the Lord and doing his work, they say.

BLACK PREACHERS RESPOND TO THE POLITICS OF THE NEW RELIGIOUS POLITICAL CONSERVATIVE RIGHT

The Baptist Minister's Conference and Associates of Winston-Salem, which recently voted unanimously to endorse a total democratic ticket for the upcoming election on November 6, have also expressed concern over the "New Conservative Religious-Political Right" and their attempts to infiltrate the Black church and Black community. The political representatives of the "New Conservative Religious-Political Right" are primarily candidates running for political office on the Republican Ticket and with bright smiling innocent faces, they enter our churches and communities talking about their "conversion" while advocating traditional values, putting prayer back into the schools and making all abortions illegal. They want to stack all political offices and congress with their people who interpret the Christian faith only the way they do and they want the Black community to help them to accomplish their desired ends. They want us to believe these are the only issues with which they are concerned.

However, after studying the situation, we believe that they are hiding their real hand and are not as innocent as they appear. They are a part of a powerful, ongoing and well financed movement of many intersecting interests that pose a distinct threat to the American way. They represent the new religious political right wing conservative movement who carry a flag in one hand and a Bible in the other. They have plans for our future that if we ignore it, it will be at our own peril.

All of the rhetoric about making all abortions illegal, putting prayer back into the schools, is not really their primary concern, but a smokescreen to conceal their real agenda, which is not in the interest of the Black community. These are the same people who want a bigger military budget to promote the nuclear arms race at the expense of wiping out all of the social programs including social security benefits which are necessary for poor, lower middle income families, youth, education and the elderly. In their "mean-spirited" individualism, they believe "them as gets deserves." Thus, Blacks who are not getting are then getting what they deserve. They say they are pro-life for Blacks in the pre-natal stage. They are against all abortions. But after birth, the life of a Black child, mother or family is of little importance to them. For they oppose every social program to help a Black family survive. Thus, they want a fetus to survive so it can be killed after birth by poverty, hunger, or crime. If Blacks will seek help for their lives, they will have to look outside of these "pro-life" groups and politicians. In fact, their promoting of the nuclear arms race (which is a threat to all of civilization) and the elimination of social programs makes the new Religious Political Right potentially more pro-death than pro-life. For, poverty and hunger are death.

The New Religious Political Right also advocates going back to the traditional values of the "good ole days." However, historical facts will show that their so-called "traditional values" may have created good days for them but not for Black people. For Black people "good ole days" meant segregation, Jim Crowism -- separate public accommodations, violence perpetuated against Blacks by hate groups and police, discrimination in housing, jobs, schools, and voting. With the attack of the New Religious Political Right upon Civil Rights laws, affirmative action, and voting rights laws, show the "traditional values" of the "good ole days" will repeat a past that Black people do not care to return to. We believe our progress will be made going forward, building on the progress we have already made. The New Religious Political Right says that by banning "prayer in the school" a series of "plagues" has descended upon our nation.

Namely, these plagues are: the Vietnam War, prominent leaders were assassinated, escalation of crime, disintegration of family life, spreading of racial conflict and teenage pregnancies.

One wonders what caused calamities when prayer was still in the schools. This is ridiculous. Anyone can make this assertion for any reason. Martin Marty, distinguished theologian of religious sociology, points out that after a lot of people were wearing "smile buttons" the rate of venereal disease increased. The divorce rate rose after the electronic church was invented. When born again celebrities started writing sex manuals, the Vietnam war accelerated... and executive crime increased right after America decided that God was not dead.

In recent studies on the New Religious Political Right such as Daniel C. McGuire's book, **The New Subversives, Holy Terror**, by Flo Conway and Jim Siegelman, and the **New Religious Political Right**, by Hill and Owen, clearly expose what the real agenda is of these innocently smiling politicians who frequent our churches on Sundays and show up at special affairs sponsored by Blacks.

1. They want a bigger military budget at the expense of social programs for the poor, minorities, education, youth and the elderly.
2. They are building new segregated private schools at a rate of several a day and are out to intimidate public schools and libraries that teach anything other than the new right doctrine.
3. They want to make all abortions illegal and to allow discrimination against all homosexual citizens.
4. In a most unsubtle way, they are anti-semitic, racist and anti-Catholic, as one study revealed.
5. They fear anything modern and want to turn the clock of progress back to a time they call more "godly."
6. They claim to be conservative, but they want to change the traditional American system of checks and balances.
7. They claim to be Evangelical Christians, yet most evangelicals reject them.
8. They claim to be fundamentalists, but they miss the crucial fundamentals of the Bible and are fixated on Biblical side issues.
9. They claim to be freedom-loving Americans, yet they would censor what others may read in the library and watch on television.
10. They claim to be American but their spirits are authoritarian fascist. They want to rid the society of democracy and substitute laws defined and written by them and for them and they want to shove their way of life down all of our throats.

In short, this is a very dangerous and paranoid group of people. They represent a national backlash of reactionary forces opposing all progressive efforts to reduce economic inequities and overcome racial and sexual discrimination. Their brand of interpretation of the Christian faith is peculiar to the traditions handed down to us in the New Testament and Church Fathers. We believe most Christians will agree that Christianity is about love, God's creative good will toward all people, holding all people whether they are Christian or not in the same high regard that God does. We believe God came to earth in the person of Jesus of Nazareth to incarnate that love, to create a community of followers (the Church) and to unleash the power of justice, integrity and altruism. In the modern American setting, human free-will, the right to interpret for oneself, the necessity of choosing religious faith for oneself, which for the majority implies the obligation to acknowledge all others' right to practice religion as they wish. We are asking all peace-loving and freedom-democracy loving people to continue to support going forward, not backwards, by going to the polls to vote a straight Democratic ticket on November 6, 1984.

The Political Action Committee of the Baptist Ministers Conference and Associates

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